



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**For Immediate Release**

November 14, 2003

**ST. PETERSBURG WOMAN SENTENCED TO 27 MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT  
FOR SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD**

Tampa, FL - U.S. District Judge Richard A. Lazzara today sentenced Becky Ingham, age 44, of St. Petersburg, Florida to 27 months' imprisonment and ordered her to pay \$79,627 in restitution to the United States for her commission of Social Security fraud.

Ingham pled guilty on August 14, 2003 to one count charging her with using the U.S. mails in committing her fraud, and two counts charging her with stealing government money.

According to court documents, Ingham submitted fraudulent applications for Social Security numbers for three fictitious children, and, upon receipt of the Social Security numbers, fraudulently applied for Social Security benefits for the three children and for herself. Through this scheme, Ingham stole \$79,627 in government funds.

The case was investigated by the Office of Inspector General for the Social Security Administration. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Katherine Ho.